

**City of Somerville, Massachusetts  
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

June 26, 2007, 7:00 PM  
Aldermanic Chambers  
\*\*\*\*\*

***NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.***

**PRESENT for all or part of the meeting:** President Robert C. Trane, Vice President Dennis M. Sullivan, Aldermen John M. Connolly, Bruce M. Desmond, William A. White Jr., William M. Roche, Maryann M. Heuston, Thomas F. Taylor, Walter F. Pero, Sean T. O'Donovan, Rebekah L. Gewirtz.

**OPENING OF THE MEETING**

- |    |                     |   |                          |
|----|---------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Roll Call           | Call of the Roll.   | 183646<br>Placed on File |
| 2. | Minutes<br>Approval | Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 24, 2007. | 183647<br>Approved       |

**CITATIONS**

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| 3. | Citation | By Ald. Trane and the Entire Board, Commending Somerville Police Capt. Charles Femino, Det. Martha Costa and Det. Kathryn Costa, Medford Police Sgt. Michael Fahey, Det. Paul McCowsky and Det. Patricia Sullivan and Tufts Police Lt. Det. Charles Lonero, for their dedicated and cooperative police work, resulting in the capture of the alleged perpetrator of the recent sexual assaults in West Somerville and West Medford. | 183648<br>Approved |
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**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- |    |                      |   |                    |
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| 4. | Grant of<br>Location | NStar for a Grant of Location to install 15 feet of conduit and install a pole in Washington St. near Magnus Ave. | 183649<br>Approved |
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**ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND  
MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

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| 5. | Order | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panel at 84 Pearson Rd. | 183650<br>Approved |
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| 6.  | Order      | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Director of SPCD inspect 14 Winslow Ave. for the careless disposal of trash and recycling material.                                      | 183651<br>Approved |
| 7.  | Order      | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Director of SPCD inspect the rear of 48 Grove St. for the careless disposal of trash on pick-up day.                                     | 183652<br>Approved |
| 8.  | Order      | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the uplifted grate in the tree well at 19 College Ave.  | 183653<br>Approved |
| 9.  | Order      | By Ald. Connolly and Taylor, That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol to curtail after dark loitering behind the Round House, at the corner of Atherton and Clark Sts.  | 183654<br>Approved |
| 10. | Order      | By Ald. Connolly and Taylor, That the Chief of Police patrol the intersection of Harvard and Atherton Sts. for drivers making illegal left hand turns to access Clark St.       | 183655<br>Approved |
| 11. | Order      | By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan and Taylor, That the Director of Traffic and Parking review the request of a concerned citizen to alter the traffic flow on Central St.     | 183656<br>Approved |
| 12. | Order      | By Ald. Trane, That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the Powderhouse School area of all weeds and debris.   | 183657<br>Approved |
| 13. | Order      | By Ald. Trane and Gewirtz, That the Chief of Police enforce speed limits on Simpson Ave. and Paulina St.  | 183658<br>Approved |
| 14. | Order      | By Ald. Trane, That the Commissioner of Public Works direct NStar to repair the street light at the Hodgkins Park crosswalk.  | 183659<br>Approved |
| 15. | Resolution | By Ald. O'Donovan, That this Board dedicates this meeting to 2nd Class US Navy serviceman, lifelong Somerville resident and Somerville High School graduate Anthony S. Vetrano. | 183660<br>Approved |
| 16. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Chief of Police investigate all license plates on vehicles parked on DiRenzo Terrace.   | 183661<br>Approved |
| 17. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of SPCD inspect all homes on DiRenzo Terrace for illegal units.  | 183662<br>Approved |
| 18. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Chief Fire Engineer inspect DiRenzo Terrace and determine if a fire lane is needed.   | 183663<br>Approved |

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| 19. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of SPCD immediately dispatch the Neighborhood Impact Team to rectify the rodent problem at 59 Albion St., as the response to #183286, dated May 30, 2007, was insufficient in dealing with this serious public safety issue. (2nd request)                   | 183664<br>Approved |
| 20. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works replace all windows at the Brown School as the current windows pose a serious safety hazard.   | 183665<br>Approved |
| 21. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works extend the new fencing at the Brown School playground to protect the abutting homes from ball play.  | 183666<br>Approved |
| 22. | Order      | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Commissioner of Public Works resurface the Kennedy School Playground.   | 183667<br>Approved |
| 23. | Resolution | By Ald. O'Donovan, That this Board requests that the Administration begin plans to renovate Albion Park.  | 183668<br>Approved |
| 24. | Resolution | By Ald. O'Donovan, That this Board requests that the Administration allocate sufficient funding to prepare to redevelop Magoun Sq., in conjunction with State funding.  | 183669<br>Approved |
| 25. | Order      | By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the tree at the corner of Buena Vista and Meacham Rds.  | 183670<br>Approved |
| 26. | Order      | By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works report to the Ward 6 Alderman this spring's street re-paving plan and add Bowers Ave. to the list.   | 183671<br>Approved |
| 27. | Order      | By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Director of Traffic and Parking install two SLOW signs on Bromfield Rd.   | 183672<br>Approved |
| 28. | Order      | By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the deep pothole at Lowden Ave. and Mallet St., and consider re-paving the entire intersection.   | 183673<br>Approved |
| 29. | Order      | By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the street light in front of H&R Block in Davis Sq., the first decorative light on the right side of the street on Meacham Rd., and the fourth light coming from the train station on the bike path heading toward Buena Vista Rd. | 183674<br>Approved |

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

30.	Committee Report	Report of the Committee on Finance, June 7-25.	183675 Approved
30A.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval of an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from Receipts Reserved for Appropriation to the Assembly Sq. Stabilization Fund.	183454 Approved
30B.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the TB Testing Revolving Fund for FY 2008 under MGL c44 s53E½.	183518 Approved
30C.	Mayor's Request	Requesting re-authorization of a list of Departmental Revolving Funds for FY 2008 under MGL c44 s53E½.	183519 Approved
30D.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Commission for Women Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183520 Approved
30E.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Human Rights Commission Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183521 Approved
30F.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Somerville Cares About Prevention Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183522 Approved
30G.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Memorial Day Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183523 Approved
30H.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Historical Celebrations Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183524 Approved
30I.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Rodent Control Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183525 Approved
30J.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Somerville Unleashed Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183526 Approved
30K.	Mayor's Request	Requesting authorization of the Adopt a Spot Consolidated Gift Account under MGL c44 s53A.	183527 Approved
30L.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer \$121,638 in the DPW Sewer Enterprise, from MWRA Assessments to Principal on Long Term Debt (\$80,000) and Interest on Long Term Debt (\$41,638).	183600 Approved
30M.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer \$11,466 from the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Acct. to the Debt Service-Interest on Notes-BAN Acct. to eliminate a year-end deficit.	183602 Approved

30N.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer \$11,102 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to the Treasury Salaries Acct. to fund accrued vacation time earned by William Fowler.	183603 Approved
30O.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer of \$2,600 from the Treasury Building Insurance Acct. (\$2,097) and the Office Supplies Acct. (\$503) to the Treasury Salaries Acct. to eliminate a year-end deficit.	183604 Approved
30P.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval for the Law Dept. to pay a prior year invoice of \$175 for services rendered re: Troiani vs. the City of Somerville.	183605 Approved
30Q.	Resolution	By Ald. O'Donovan and the Entire Board, That the Administration budget for a full time Mental Health Coordinator at the Council on Aging.	183676 Approved
30R.	Resolution	By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Mayor submit an additional appropriation to SomerStat to ensure that the ResiStat Program fulfills its mission of establishing 20 ResiStat groups throughout the City in the shortest possible time.	183677 Approved
30S.	Resolution	By Ald. Sullivan, That the Administration hire a full-time ADA Coordinator.	183678 Approved
30T.	Resolution	By Ald. Taylor, That the Administration establish a bi-weekly payroll in conjunction with automatic transfer deposits.	183679 Approved
30U.	Resolution	By. Ald. O'Donovan, That the Administration budget for an additional planner in the Planning Dept.	183680 Approved
30V.	Resolution	By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Administration budget for an on-call inspector in the Inspectional Services Dept.	183681 Approved
30W.	Resolution	By. Ald. Taylor, That the the Administration review the service delivery structure of the Fire Dept. taking into consideration the types of calls for service, staffing, administration, equipment and available stations.	183682 Approved
30X.	Resolution	By Ald. Taylor and O'Donovan, That the Administration return Engine 4 to service, especially during the reconstruction of Somerville Ave.	183683 Approved
30Y.	Resolution	By Ald. Taylor, That the Administration explore the feasibility of establishing a Fire Rescue Unit.	183684 Approved
30Z.	Resolution	By Ald. Taylor, That the Administration merge E-911 and Fire Alarm and set a timeline for implementation.	183685 Approved

30AA.	Resolution	By Ald. White, O'Donovan and Gewirtz, That the Administration increase the availability of Engine 4.	183686 Approved
30AB.	Resolution	By Ald. Taylor and Desmond, That the Administration establish a part-time Animal Control Officer position.	183687 Approved
30AC.	Resolution	By Ald. White, That the Administration consider using funds to hire additional patrolmen for the Police Dept.	183688 Approved
30AD.	Resolution	By Ald. Roche, That the Administration extend the East Branch Library hours to the weekend.	183689 Approved
30AE.	Resolution	By Ald. Sullivan and Heuston, That the Administration improve the drainage and road surface of the Washington St. corridor from Kirkland St. to the Charlestown line.	183690 Approved
30AF.	Resolution	By Ald. Trane, Gewirtz, Connolly, Heuston and White, That the Administration secure a location and funding for a youth center for the West Somerville area.	183691 Approved
30AG.	Resolution	By. Ald. Heuston, That the Administration transfer the summer jobs program from the Personnel Dept. to the Recreation Dept.	183692 Approved
30AH.	Resolution	By Ald. Heuston, That the Administration add a part time Zoning Enforcement Officer to the Inspectional Services Dept. budget for evenings and weekends.	183693 Approved
30AI.	Resolution	By Ald. Heuston, That the Administration restore the duties of the Zoning Administrator to include all tasks outlined by the ordinance.	183694 Approved
30AJ.	Resolution	By Ald. Heuston, That the Administration consider establishing a satellite library program in Union Sq.	183695 Approved
30AK.	Resolution	By Ald. Heuston, That the Administration make Engine 4 functional during the Somerville Ave. reconstruction.	183696 Approved
30AL.	Resolution	By Ald. Desmond, That the Phone Maintenance Acct. (53415) be reduced by \$5,860.	183697 Approved
30AM.	Resolution	By Ald. Desmond, That any savings realized by the IT Dept. in the reconciliation of the PSTN usage be re-invested in IT to fund a disaster recovery site/plan.	183698 Approved
30AN.	Resolution	By Ald. Desmond, That any savings realized by the in-house management of the city web site be re-invested in IT to fund a disaster recover site/plan.	183699 Approved

30AO.	Resolution	By Ald. Connolly, That the Chairman of the Licensing Commission advise this Board on the current status of All Forms Liquor Licenses, including 2AM closures, as well as the number of package stores, veterans posts, private clubs, beer and wine licenses and common victualler licenses.	183700 Approved
30AP.	Order	By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Chief of Police account for the \$330,000 grant received by the Police in Nov., 2005, for the Community Policing Plan, make the Plan available to the public, and report to this Board how the funds were spent, and if there are any remaining funds.	183701 Approved
30AQ.	Order	By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works account for the use of overtime funds for street sweeping on Saturday mornings when it isn't scheduled and emptying trash cans after hours on Saturday evenings in the absence of a major event.	183702 Approved
30AR.	Order	By Ald. Connolly, That the Chief of Police consider implementing a K-9 component to aid the Narcotics Unit, among others, especially with regards to search techniques.	183703 Approved
30AS.	Order	By Ald. Connolly, That the Chief Assessor advise this Board quarterly with a report of new growth tax revenues.	183704
30AT.	Order	By Ald. Connolly, That the Chief Assessor and the City Treasurer report to this Board the top ten tax delinquents, along with the amount of current uncollected revenue.	183705 Approved
30AU.	Order	By Ald. Connolly, That the Commissioner of Public Works advise this Board of the tentative schedule, by ward, of the tree removal program, and the procedure for residents who are interested in replacing diseased trees.	183706 Approved
31.	Committee Report	Report of the Committee on Finance, June 21.	183707 Approved
31A.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer \$570,000 from the Health Insurance Acct. to the DPW Professional & Tech. Services Acct. to fund the closure and cleanup of various oil tank and spill related projects.	183455 Approved
31B.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to use available funds of \$98,491.66 in the Police Salaries Acct. to establish a Police Detail Fund pursuant to a collective bargaining obligation.	183599 Approved
31C.	Mayor's Request	Requesting approval to transfer \$110,000 from the Police Salaries Acct. to the Vehicle Acct. to fund four 2007 Ford Crown Victoria Police Sedans.	183601 Approved

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| 32.  | Committee Report | Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, June 26.                              | 183708<br>Approved |
| 32A. | Mayor's Request  | Requesting the appointment of Steven MacEachern as Superintendent of Highways, Lights & Lines. | 183325<br>Approved |
| 32B. | Mayor's Request  | Requesting the appointment of Al Rubio to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.        | 183327<br>Approved |

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

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| 33. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval of a \$3,500,000 appropriation from Unreserved Fund Balance (Free Cash) to reduce the FY08 tax levy.  | 183709<br>Approved                                    |
| 34. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval of a \$2,500,000 appropriation from Unreserved Fund Balance (Free Cash) to the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to fund necessary Capital Improvements in FY08.  | 183710<br>Approved                                    |
| 35. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to transfer \$125,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings Acct. to the Water Enterprise Water Meters and Parts Acct.  | 183711<br>Approved                                    |
| 36. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to expend a \$40,000 grant from the MA Board of Library Commissioners to the Library for library construction planning and design.  | 183712<br>Finance                                     |
| 37. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to expend a \$30,000 grant from the MA Technology Collaborative to the Office of Sustainability and The Environment to develop a program on using local green schools for project-based instruction in science, technology engineering and mathematics. | 183713<br>Finance                                     |
| 38. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to expend a \$5,000 grant from Books of Hope for the Arts Council to continue its programming.  | 183714<br>Approved                                    |
| 39. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to expend a \$1,000 grant from the Anti-Defamation League to the Human Rights Commission for a report about the Conversations Project.  | 183715<br>Approved                                    |
| 40. | Mayor's Request | Requesting the appointment of Elaine Severino to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member.  | 183716<br>Approved                                    |
| 41. | Mayor's Request | Requesting the appointment of Ernest Felice as a Constable.   | 183717<br>Conf. of Appointments                       |
| 42. | Mayor's Comm.   | Conveying the City's Capital Improvements Plan for FY08.  | 183718<br>Placed on File, Copy to<br>Capital Planning |



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| 43. | Mayor's<br>Comm. | Announcing the 4 <sup>th</sup> year of "Summertime in Somerville" at Trum Field, with fireworks on Thursday evening, June 28, and a Family Fun Day on Saturday, June 30, 12-5PM. | 183719<br>Placed on File |
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**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

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| 44. | Officer's<br>Comm. | Planning Board reporting recommendations on #183156 re: zoning amendments to create a PUD-C Zoning Overlay District and Union Sq. Arts Overlay. | 183720<br>Land Use |
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**NEW BUSINESS**

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| 45. | Public Occ         | Public Occupancy Permit, Starbucks Coffee Music Festival, Davis Sq. Starbucks Courtyard, July 11, 5-10PM.   | 183721<br>Approved       |
| 46. | Public Occ         | Public Occupancy Permit, Summer Jobs BBQ, Trum Field, August 24, 10:30-4PM.                                 | 183722<br>Approved       |
| 47. | Drainlayer         | New Drain Layer's License, Commonwealth Excavation.   | 183723<br>Approved       |
| 48. | Flammable          | Renewal of Flammable License, Somerville Hospital, 230 Highland Ave, 15,000 gallons.                        | 183724<br>Approved       |
| 49. | Outdoor<br>Seating | New Outdoor Seating License, Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., 1 table, 1 chair & 2 sidewalk signs. | 183725<br>Approved       |
| 50. | Comm.              | DCR responding to #183281 re: the lighting system at the Gilman St. Bridge.                                 | 183726<br>Placed on File |
| 51. | Comm.              | Anna Shenk submitting comments re: Union Sq. Zoning.  | 183727<br>Land Use       |
| 52. | Comm.              | Fred Berman submitting comments re: Union Sq. Zoning.   | 183728<br>Land Use       |
| 53. | Comm.              | Somerville Chamber of Commerce submitting comments re: Union Sq. Zoning.                                    | 183729<br>Land Use       |

**LATE ITEMS**

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| 54. | Mayor's<br>Request | Requesting an appropriation of \$14,771,116 to fund the Sewer Enterprise Fund budget for FY 2008. | 183516<br>Discharged From<br>Finance, Approved |
| 55. | Mayor's<br>Request | Requesting an appropriation of \$9,388,069 to fund the Water Enterprise Fund budget for FY 2008.  | 183517<br>Discharged From<br>Finance, Approved |

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| 56. | Mayor's Request   | Requesting a revised appropriation of \$157,963,516 to fund the operating budget for the city for FY 2008.   | 183730<br>Approved                                     |
| 57. | Officer's Request | Historic Preservation Commission requesting the approval of map amendments to the Historic District Ordinance (Ch. 7, Art II).   | 183731<br>Legislative Matters                          |
| 58. | Officer's Comm.   | Veteran's Services Director and Chairman of the Dedication Commission responding to #183585 re: renaming the High School Concourse.  | 183732<br>Veterans Services and<br>Legislative Matters |
| 59. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Director of SPCD report to the Ward 2 Alderman on the status of 47 Houghton St.  | 183733<br>Approved                                     |
| 60. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works remove the tree across from 35 Dane Ave. if it is diseased.   | 183734<br>Approved                                     |
| 61. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Director of SPCD direct the owner of the commercial building along Dane Ave. to clean the area and remove a piece of equipment in the back of the building that protrudes onto the sidewalk. | 183735<br>Approved                                     |
| 62. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol at Hanson and Washington Sts. during rush hour, to stop vehicles violating the one way direction of Hanson St.                                       | 183736<br>Approved                                     |
| 63. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the tree at 395 Washington St.   | 183737<br>Approved                                     |
| 64. | Order             | By Ald. Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works install a ballard at the corner of Beacon St. and Beacon Place to prevent trucks from damaging property on Beacon St. when entering Beacon Place.               | 183738<br>Approved                                     |

**Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk**